

California Gourd Society  
Northern Gourd Art  
Competition

October 8&9, 2016

Hosted by  
The Calabash Club of Silicon Valley

Held at Uesugi Farms  
14485 Monterey Rd, San Martin, CA 95046



## California Gourd Society

### Northern California Gourd Competition 2016

Hosted by the Calabash Gourd Club of Silicon Valley at Uesugi Farms Pumpkin Patch in San Martin, CA.  
October 8-9, 2016

#### How To Enter

- The competition is open to **ALL**.
- The entry fee per entry is \$6.00 for CGS members and \$10.00 for all others. One entry per entry form. **Make checks payable to CGS.**
- Mailed entries** will not be accepted.
- Entries may be submitted in person on **Thursday, October 6, 2016, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and on Friday, October 7, from 7a.m. until 12 noon.**
- LATE ENTRIES WILL NOT BE JUDGED.**
- Judging will take place on Friday at 3 p.m. and the display will be open for viewing on Saturday and Sunday.
- Release and pick up of entries will be **from 3 p.m.-5 p.m. on Sunday, October 9, 2016.** All art work not picked up will become the property of CGS.
- CGS reserves the right to photograph each entry and use in promotion of CGS Art Competition.
- While every effort is made to provide security of items, the Calabash Gourd Group, the California Gourd Society and Uesugi Farms **are not** responsible for damaged or lost items.
- The artist is responsible for placing his or her piece in the correct **category.**  
**Note: Please read category and division descriptions carefully. Fit your art work to the categories.**

#### General Rules

1. Gourds must predominate. 50% of medium or technique to be used on the crafted gourd surface should exhibit the required medium or technique.
2. Gourds previously entered in a CGS competition and judged by AGS guidelines will not be permitted.
3. Craft/artwork for each entry must be the **original** work of person who is the entrant.
4. Only one entry per category is permitted.
5. No class gourds are permitted.
6. Judges reserve the right to disqualify or reassign entries that do not meet category criteria.
7. **Copyright designs such as Disney characters or copies of other artist's work may not be used on entries unless written permission is granted by the artist or copyright holder. Copyright free designs may be used.**
8. All participants agree to allow photographs to be taken of displayed items.
9. Not all categories may be included in each division.
10. Category definitions may be the same for Novice; Intermediate; Advanced and Master Craftsman, but will be judged according to **Division** level.

#### Judging

The California Gourd Society will coordinate all judging. Judging will follow the American Gourd Society judging guidelines and using AGS trained judges. Scoring option "A" (Detailed Scoring) will be used. 1-5 points will be given for Originality of design, Quality of craftsmanship and gourd, Creativity and artistry, Color and/or finish, accessories, decorative work, and Appropriateness for category.

**Pins will be awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in each category at the judge's discretion. A category with only one entry does not necessarily guarantee a 1st place pin.**

## Category Awards

Best of Show – Best of Division – Judges Choice – Jim Story Award - People’s Choice (Votes will be collected from the viewing public both Saturday & Sunday)

## DIVISION LEVELS

### YOUTH DIVISION (There is no fee for entry in Youth Division)

This division is for **Juniors**: 12 years old and under and **Teens**: 13 -17 years old

**Category** - One crafted gourd, any technique.

### NOVICE DIVISION

This division is for gourd crafters/artists that are relatively new to gourd crafting and have not won a blue ribbon as a Novice. The Novice should not have taught a gourd class for a fee. If you have won a major award in a juried art show or won Best of Novice Division you must move up to the next division.

1. **Category 1 Pyrography** - Wood-burning must predominate, but stain, dye or a small amount of color may be added to enhance the design.
2. **Category 2 Painted or Colored** – Whole or cut gourd, painting must predominate, may use any color media. Some examples of color media are stains, dyes, inks, oil pastels pencils, crayons, colored pencils, felt-tip pens, acrylic paints, oil paints, watercolors, colored waxes, etc..
3. **Category 3 Holiday Theme** – Any holiday and any combination of techniques.
4. **Category 4 Beading** – The beading design must predominate.

### INTERMEDIATE DIVISION

The Intermediate Division is for artists who understand and use basic techniques. Entrants should not have won a major award in a gourd show or a juried art show. They may have sold gourds but have not taught a gourd class for a fee.

1. **Category 5 Pyrography** - Wood-burning must predominate, but stain, dye or a small amount of color may be added to enhance the design.
2. **Category 6 Painted or Colored** - Whole or cut gourd, painting must predominate, may use any color media. Some examples of color media are stains, dyes, inks, oil pastels pencils, crayons, colored pencils, felt-tip pens, acrylic paints, oil paints, watercolors, colored waxes, etc
3. **Category 7 Carved** - Relief-carved, to create texture, chipped, chiseled or power-carved, does not penetrate or cut entirely through the shell, may embellish with color, a whole gourd or cut gourd may be used.
4. **Category 8 Filigree or fretwork** – The design cuts entirely through the gourd shell and may be embellished with color.
5. **Category 9 Jewelry** – Single or sets: Necklace, earrings, bracelet, brooch, barrette or tiara. Any technique.
6. **Category 10 Beading** - The beading design must predominate.
7. **Category 11 Weaving/Coiled** – A gourd woven or coiled with mixed materials, may be natural or man-made, fiber art techniques must predominate.
8. **Category 12 – Combinations of Techniques** – At least 3 different techniques must be used (and identified).

## **ADVANCED DIVISION**

The Advanced Division is for artists who have progressed to a more complicated level of work and have a good grasp of multiple techniques and finishing skills. They are creating more distinctive, original work and are ready to compete with a wider range of competitors. They may have taught a gourd class for a fee but have not won top awards in art/gourd competitions. Once you have won Best of the Division or Best of Show in this competition, you must move up to the next division.

1. **Category 13 Pyrography** - Wood-burning must predominate, but stain, dye or a small amount of color may be added to enhance the design.
2. **Category 14 Painted or Colored** - Whole or cut gourd, painting must predominate, may use any color media. Some examples of color media are stains, dyes, inks, oil pastels pencils, crayons, colored pencils, felt-tip pens, acrylic paints, oil paints, watercolors, colored waxes, etc
3. **Category 15 Carved** - Relief-carved, to create texture, chipped, chiseled or power-carved, does not penetrate or cut entirely through the shell, may embellish with color, a whole gourd or cut gourd may be used.
4. **Category 16 Filigree or fretwork** – The design cuts entirely through the gourd shell and may be embellished with color.
5. **Category 17 Jewelry** – Single or sets: Necklace, earrings, bracelet, brooch, barrette or tiara. Any technique.
6. **Category 18 Beading** - The beading design must predominate
7. **Category 19 Weaving/Coiled** – A gourd woven or coiled with mixed materials, may be natural or man-made, fiber art techniques must predominate.
8. **Category 20 Combinations of Techniques** – At least 3 different techniques must be used (and identified).

## **MASTER CRAFTSMAN DIVISION**

The Master Division artist's work shows excellent use of all techniques and finishing skills. The work is of original design. Their work may have been shown in galleries previously won top awards in art/gourd competitions, and have reached the level of fine art. **NOTE:** Artists entering this Division are **NOT** allowed to enter Novice or Intermediate Divisions. Master Artists may include a biography with their entry form, which will be displayed with the entry. (Please furnish frame for display).

1. **Category 21 Pyrography** - Wood-burning must predominate, but stain, dye or a small amount of color may be added to enhance the design.
2. **Category 22 Carved** - Relief-carved, to create texture, chipped, chiseled or power-carved, does not penetrate or cut entirely through the shell, may embellish with color, a whole gourd or bowl-cut gourd may be used.
3. **Category 23 Filigree or fretwork** – The design cuts entirely through the gourd shell and may be embellished with color.
4. **Category 24 Beading** - The beading design must predominate.
5. **Category 25 Weaving/Coiled** – A gourd woven or coiled with mixed materials, may be natural or man-made, fiber art techniques must predominate.
6. **Category 26 Combinations of Techniques** – At least 3 different techniques must be used (and identified).
7. **Category 27 Distinctively Different** – Your unique gourd that does not fit into any other category.

## **Special Category 28 in Honor of Jim Story - Any Manipulated or Molded gourd grown in the last two years.**

Any questions please contact Competition Chair Sylvia Nelson at [sylvianelson@citlink.net](mailto:sylvianelson@citlink.net) 916-682-2437.

041816

## Gourd Crafting Terms and Definitions

**Accessories or Embellishments** Any material added to the crafted gourd to complete the exhibit.

**Artificial or Man-made Accessories/Embellishments** Any material added to the crafted gourd that is not natural, such as artificial flowers, plastics, plastic eyes, or manufactured items.(See also Natural Accessories.)

**Artificial Sinew** A waxed nylon imitation of natural sinew (animal tendon) used in beading, sometimes used in place of cotton thread. (Artificial sinew will be allowed on all entries).

**Base** A support or stand that holds a gourd at the proper angle or position. It may be metal, wood or a manufactured turn-table but the base will not be considered an accessory of the crafted gourd.

**Basket** A gourd with the top cut off with a carrying handle attached or cut so that part of the gourd remains to function as a handle.

**Beading** The technique of using beads to apply a design to gourd. Beads may be applied with beeswax, embedded in recessed holes, strung and wrapped around, or sewn to the gourd. Beads are made of plastic, glass, and/or natural material, i.e. shell, wood, clay or seeds.

**Bowl** A gourd with the top cut off (or some portion cut off) to give the appearance of a container.

**Burned Using a Flame** (i.e., small torch) to char or change the color of the gourd surface (See also Pyrography/Wood-burning.)

**Carved** The removal of a portion of the outer surface of the shell of a gourd, exposing the undersurface to create a design or texture in relief, usually done with a power tool.

**Chip Carving** Carving done with gouging tools to “chip” out small pieces of gourd to create a pattern or design on the surface of the gourd.

**Clear Finish** Any furnish, such as varnish, shellac, wax or oil, which enhances the overall appearance of the gourd but adds no color (except the slight natural darkening that may occur).

**Coiled** Use of pine needles or grasses (or other natural materials), wrapped and held in place by thread, raffia or sinew to cover rims of bowls or create designs on gourds.

**Color/Coloring** Using any medium that adds to, enhances, or changes the natural appearance of the gourd’s surface. Some examples of color media are stains, dyes, inks, oil pastel pencils, crayons, colored pencils, felt tip pens, acrylic paints, oil paints, watercolors, colored waxes, etc.

**Cut Gourd** Cutting all the way through the gourd shell to create a hole or opening (as opposed to surface cuts as in carving). The cut or openings are incorporated into the design.

**Embellishment/Accessories** Any material that is added to the gourd to enhance the overall design and appearance of the gourd. (See also Artificial Accessories and Natural Accessories.)

**Fretwork** An intricate, interlaced, decorative design (of holes or other shapes) cut into and through the shell of the gourd, usually done with power tools.

**Functional** An item fashioned to be used. For example, gourd pitchers that actually holds water and has a functional spout and handle.

**Medium/Media** Material used for artistic expression, such as paint, dye, ink, etc.

**Natural Accessories** Any material added to the crafted gourd that is natural. Examples include linen/cotton thread, grasses, pine needles, seeds pods, shells, stones, bone, feathers, etc.

**Pyrography/Wood-burning** Burning a design (lines and shading) on a gourd with the use of an electric wood-burning tool.

**Predominate** The word “predominate” (when used in Competition Class description to indicate the amount of medium or technique to be used on the crafted gourd) means that the majority of the crafted gourd surface should exhibit the required medium or technique.

**Weaving** Interlacing various materials attached to the gourd, such as grasses, cords, natural fibers, etc.